

- 3. When the Early Church prayed, God moved in MIRACULOUS ways.** (2:6-13; 9:36-43; 12:5-11; 16:25-26; 28:8)



What Happened When the Early Church Prayed

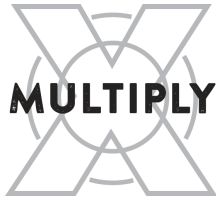
Selected Acts Passages
Sunday, January 22, 2017

So far, we've seen together HOW the Early Church prayed and WHEN the Early Church prayed. Today, as a stimulus for our prayers in 2017, we explore WHAT HAPPENED when the Early Church prayed . . .

- 4. When the Early Church prayed, God MULTIPLIED the Gospel.**
(2:42-47; 4:29-32; 6:6-8; 9:40-42; 13:3)

- 1. When the Early Church prayed, God LED His people.**
(1:21-26; 10:1-22; 9:6,11; 13:1-3)

- 2. When the Early Church prayed, God EMPOWERED His people.**
(2:1-13; 4:29-31; 6:6-8; 8:15; 13:3)



What Happened When the Early Church Prayed

Growth Group Guide & Questions
for the week of January 22

Connecting & Caring Together (about 20 min.)

On this second week of Growth Groups, take time to “lean in” to one another by sharing joys and struggles, triumphs and trials.

Grappling with God's Word Together (about 20 min.)

1. How did the message affect/impact you this week? The record of God's action in response to the prayers of His people is meant to encourage and stimulate our prayers. Is that happening for you?
2. In last week's message, Pastor Tim shared several things that taking/making time to pray does for/in him. Which of these benefits of prayer have you personally experienced?

prayer slows me down
prayer softens my heart
prayer reorients my soul
prayer reorders my priorities
prayer activates/expresses my faith
3. Of the 4 things that happened when the Early Church prayed, which one was most SURPRISING to you and why? Which one was most CHALLENGING to you and why?

4. We've noted a couple times in the last few weeks that our prayers tend to be focussed on the needs of ours and other's lives near us, where the Early Church also prayed for God's BIG GOSPEL MULTIPLY MISSION. Why do you think that is? How might we correct that? And what do you think might happen if we started praying BIGGER GOSPEL FOCUSED PRAYERS?
5. Again this week we carved out time for folks to receive prayer in our worship services. It's a pretty new thing for our church. Were you one that got up to receive prayer? Why or why not? Would you ever get up to receive prayer? Why or why not?
6. Has anything happened for you as you've been experimenting with leaning into prayer these last few weeks? Has God spoken to/led/or guided you in any fresh way? Has God empowered you in some new way? Share your experience. (If nothing's happened, that's totally ok!)

Praying Together (about 20 min.)

Try it again! Jump right into prayer and sharing our burdens/requests through prayer. (If needed, you can ask questions after your prayer time.)

Let's pray also for the multiplication/spread/growth of the Gospel here on the Central Coast, through Grace and other churches, since we know this is God's heart and eternal purpose!